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Uses of Outer Space

Information furnished in conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Note verbale dated 19 April 1999 from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (Vienna) presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in accordance with article IV of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space,* has the honour to transmit information concerning the launching of three Japanese satellites: COMETS (KAKEHASHI), BSAT-1B and Planet-B (NOZOMI) (see annex).

* General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex, of 12 November 1974.

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Annex

Registration data for Japanese space launches*

1.	Name:	Communications and Broadcasting Engineering Test Satellite (COMETS) (KAKEHASHI)
2.	Designation:	1998-011A
3.	Name of launching State:	Japan
4.	Date of launch:	21 February 1998 (07:55 GMT)
5.	Location of launch:	Japan (Tanegashima Space Center)
6.	Basic orbital parameters (as of 30 May 1998):	
	(1) Nodal period:	319 minutes
	(2) Inclination:	30 degrees
	(3) Apogee:	17,711 kilometres
	(4) Perigee:	473 kilometres
7.	General function:	Experiments on advanced mobile satellite communications, inter-orbit communications, advanced satellite broadcasting etc.
8.	Launch vehicle:	H-II (Flight No. 5)
9.	Launching organization:	National Space Development Agency of Japan
10.	Note:	Injection into the geostationary orbit was not successful because of the short second burning period of the upper-stage engine.

* The registration data are reproduced in the form in which they were received.

1.	Name:	BSAT-1B
2.	Designation:	1998-024B
3.	Name of launching State:	Japan (France)
4.	Date of launch:	28 April 1998 (22:53 GMT)
5.	Location of launch:	French Guiana (Kourou)
6.	Basic orbital parameters (as of 3 July 1998):	
	(1) Nodal period:	1,436 minutes
	(2) Inclination:	0.064 degrees
	(3) Apogee:	35,803 kilometres
	(4) Perigee:	35,783 kilometres
7.	General function:	Domestic direct broadcasting
8.	Launch vehicle:	Ariane 44P
9.	Launching organization:	Arianespace

1.	Name:	PLANET-B (NOZOMI)
2.	Designation:	1998-041A
3.	Name of launching State:	Japan
4.	Date of launch:	3 July 1998 (18:12 GMT)
5.	Location of launch:	Japan (Kagoshima Space Center)
6.	Basic orbital parameters (heliocentric orbit as of 6 January 1999):	
	(1) Nodal period:	485 days
	(2) Inclination:	3 degrees
	(3) Aphelium:	216,000,000 kilometres
	(4) Perihelium:	146,000,000 kilometres
7.	General function:	Interaction between solar wind and Martian upper atmosphere
8.	Launch vehicle:	M-V (Flight No.3)
9.	Launching organization:	Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science
10.	Note:	The orbit is to be changed to perform Earth swing-bys.